

All-party meeting on Women's Reservation Bill

4044. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an all-party meeting on the Women's Reservation Bill convened on 12th March, 2001, was held;

(b) if so, the decisions taken in the meeting; and

(c) if not, by when the meeting is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Bill was listed for consideration and passing in the Lok Sabha on 21.12.2000 and 22.12.2000 during the Winter Session, 2000, but could not be considered. A notice for consideration and passing of the said Bill was given on 19.2.2001 during the current session also. Thus the Government has been making sincere efforts to debate and discuss the Bill in the Houses of Parliament and to evolve consensus among all the Political Parties. However, consensus has continued to elude. The Government has done its duty by introducing the necessary legislation and it has an open mind on any suggestions which may come from the Hon'ble Members, including convening of any meeting of political parties in this regard.

Recommendations on state funding of elections

4045. SHRI K.B. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the recommendations of Dinesh Goswami Committee on Electoral Reforms have been implemented;

(b) whether the Indrajit Gupta Committee, which later went into examining the electoral reforms with specific reference to State funding of elections, has recommended partial State funding of elections;

(c) whether Government have examined the recommendations and sought the Election Commission's views; and